Viability of Alloy Steel Plant

4119. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur would become redundant after expansion and reverse integration is completed in Salem Steel Plant;

(b) what are the possible outlets for stainless steel slabs produced in Alloy Steel Plant in the event that Salem Steel Plant produces its own stainless steel slabs after expansion; and

(c) what steps are being taken to keep Alloy Steel Plant viable by installing finishing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The entire proposed production of stainless steel slabs of Alloy Steel Plant (ASP) is planned to be used by Salem Steel Plant (SSP) even after completion of expansion and reverse integration in Salem Steel Plant.

(c) As per Corporate Plan, steps are being taken to improve ASP's profitability by revamping/replacing many of the existing equipment and adding new facilities such as round/bloom caster, forging facilities. Feasibility studies are being carried out. In addition a number of debottle-necking schemes are also being taken up.

Requirement of iron-ore

4120. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the projected requirement of iron ore of good quality with 60 per cent or above Fe-content by the year 2020 for our domestic industry;

(b) whether our known reserves of Hematite iron-ore can sustain our plants during the following decades;